

SPECIAL SEMESTER II
LSM4263 – FIELD STUDIES IN BIODIVERSITY

Prerequisite: Life Sciences Major or Bachelor of Environmental Studies (BES) Third Year Student who are qualified for Honours with CAP of at least 3.20

Workload: 12 lecture hours + 3 tutorial hours + 10 field practical hours + 7 day field course

Course description:

LSM4263 will introduce students to field biology, conservation issues, the basic techniques involved, sampling design and basic data gathering and data management. From field practicals, students will experience and encounter tropical environs and habitats, namely coastal, mangrove, primary and secondary forest. A 7 day field course is incorporated and will be conducted in Pulau Tioman, Malaysia. There students, who will be divided into small groups, will conduct either 4 mini-projects in 4 separate habitats or 1 major project in a chosen habitat, under the supervision of experienced field-orientated teaching assistants. This module will involve overseas exchange students as well as NUS Life Science students.

S/N	Topics	Lecture (+ tutorial) hours
1.	Introduction to Field Studies in Biodiversity and the tales of two islands.	2.5
2.	Tropical ecosystems.	2.5
3.	Visit to the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum.	2
4.	Biogeography and island life: Pulau Tioman.	2.5
5.	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve—field practical.	4
6.	Sampling design and scientific writing.	2.5
7.	Confessions of a field biologist.	2.5
8.	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve—field practical.	4
9.	Field studies review and survival.	2.5
10.	Field course conducted at Pulau Tioman.	7 days
11.	Field store clearance.	
12.	Oral presentation, exchange and local students.	
13.	Report assignment submission.	

MODE OF ASSESSMENT: Oral presentation (for all students), report assignments (only for local students and UC students)

MODULE CO-ORDINATORS/LECTURERS:

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